

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Flemming in view of Kagamihara. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 as amended patentably distinguishes over the rejection of record. Flemming discloses a dispensing system having multiple pumps for alternatively dispensing various colored materials (col. 5, lines 46-54). Only one color is dispensed at a time and the others are recirculated back to the reservoirs. Because this is metered dispensing using a stepper motor, there is no pressure control nor any need for such. Colorant dispensing is typically a low pressure operation.

Kagamihara is a device which dispenses a single material not a plural component material. While it might monitor pressure at different points in the stream, there is only one stream because there is only one material. There does not appear to be any comparison of pressures in the section cited in the Office Action. At best even if Flemming and Kagamihara were combined, one would have a system that dispensed one color at a time and which looked at pressures along one color stream in contrast to the claimed invention which dispenses two materials simultaneously and which compares pressures of the two streams to a setpoint (or to a predetermined deviation from a setpoint as set forth in claim 2). One skilled in the art needs some reason to combine the two references and there is no reason mentioned why one would do so other than Applicants' disclosure.

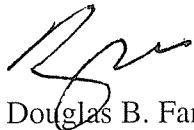
Applicants have produced an electric plural component proportioner for the mixing of fast setting materials which require precise control of both ratio and pressure using many commonly available parts traditionally produced in volume for use in airless paint sprayers resulting in a

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unit which is relatively inexpensive and yet which performs at a level above its price point. The assignee of the instant invention has sold over \$40 million of proportioners constructed according to the claimed invention, clear evidence of commercial success and lack of obviousness.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas B. Farrow', is written above the printed name.

Douglas B. Farrow

Registration No. 28582

Graco Inc.

PO Box 1441

Minneapolis, MN 55440

(612) 623-6769

pto@graco.com